



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 (TTY 711)

FAX 703-248-5146

[publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Thursday, May 31, 2007**

**CONTACT:**

**Nicole Gobbo**

**703-248-5210 (TTY 711)**

[ngobbo@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:ngobbo@fallschurchva.gov)

**Hyun June Lee**

**703-248-5101 (TTY 711)**

[hlee@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:hlee@fallschurchva.gov)

## **City of Falls Church Erosion and Sediment Program Receives State's Highest Inspection Rating**

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – The City of Falls Church Erosion and Sediment (E&S) program received a “consistent” rating from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). This means the City’s program is consistent with Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law and Regulations and meets the standards of effectiveness in controlling erosion, sediment deposition, and nonagricultural runoff. All municipalities strive to achieve a consistent rating, which is required by state regulators.

The consistent rating also fulfills a requirement of the City of Falls Church Municipal Stormwater Management permit, which is due for renewal at the end of the year.

DCR awarded the rating following a January 2007 review of the City’s E&S program. The program is comprised of plan review, inspection, and enforcement. The City received a score of 90 out of 100 in the plan review category and a score of 95 in the categories of inspection and enforcement.

The City’s E&S inspectors monitor commercial and residential construction sites to ensure water and runoff is contained. Construction site erosion can have a significant impact on the environment. More than 156 tons of dirt can run off a one-acre construction site each year, which is 2,000 times greater than sediment runoff from a wooded lot. Mud on streets can create unsafe conditions and sediment can clog storm drains and erode stream banks. Moreover, sediment-laden water in streams, rivers, and the Chesapeake Bay blocks sunlight, carries too many nutrients, and interferes with aquatic plant and animal habitat.

###

[www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov)